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Statement from Mohammed Ali Abdallah, the GNA Advisor for US Affairs:

"The Libyan government wants peace and stability and welcomes any credible ceasefire proposal, but we have a duty to protect the Libyan people as a war criminal wages illegal violence targeting the civilian population and infrastructure. The UAE, Russia, Egypt, Jordan and others for nine months have participated in Haftar's bloody and disastrous coup attempt, and they – collectively – can end the carnage immediately if they so choose.

All foreign states and parties operating illegally must fully exit Libya, and Haftar's campaign of terror must be ended in its entirety.

The GNA urgently wants to restore peace, and until that is possible, as Libya's only legitimate and recognized government, we will exercise our lawful right to enter into military alliances and defend our country from attack.

The GNA's temporary withdrawal from Sirte demonstrated our commitment to minimizing bloodshed among Libyans, particularly the civilian population in the line of fire, but we will not allow any territory to be overrun by a criminal on a self-declared mission of "jihad" against the Libyan people. We are committed to delivering stability, security and democratic reform, and will never allow another ruthless dictator to put his boot on the throats of the Libyan people."

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